

Georgia Horror Revived.

Old Man Rawlings Makes Confession--The Condemned Man Says He Hired Alf Moore to Kill Carter, But Not the Children.

Valdosta, Ga., Daily Times.

The motion for a new trial in the case of J. G. Rawlings and his sons, Milton, Jesse and Leonard, is being argued before the supreme court in Atlanta today, Solicitor General Thomas having left here last night to be on hand and represent the state. In the meantime, the elder Rawlings makes an interesting statement which will be found below:

The most important statement that has been made by J. G. Rawlings since the murder of the Carter children, was made last Saturday afternoon in the presence of a Times reporter, Sheriff Passmore, Mr. Tube Swindle and Mr. Orrin Register, who was his near neighbor and who was a member of the coroner's jury which investigated killing.

This statement appeared to be the first determined effort which Rawlings has made to shield his sons by taking the blame upon himself. He confessed to having hired Alf Moore to "put old man Carter out of the way," the deal being effected through Joe Bently.

He also says that Alf Moore was given positive instructions not to harm a one of those children at Carter's house. He says that he wanted Alf to go over to Frank Turner's house and stay until the time came to do the work, but that Alf would not do that, saying that he did not even want Frank Turner to know he was there. Rawlings says that he then told him to go to the little house in the field and that he carried his dinner to him there.

He positively denies that either of his boys were at Carter's at the time of the killing, and says that Alf Moore went there that afternoon for the purpose of killing Carter, but Carter would not come to the gate when Alf called him out. He says that the killing of the children was not in the program, and that Alf told Joe Bently that they were killed because the Carter boy came out with his rifle, Alf claiming to act in self defense.

WEPT AS HE TOLD HIS STORY.

The scene in the county jail was dramatic as the father of the condemned boys, himself condemned to death upon the gallows, a story incriminating himself, but rigidly defending his sons and others who have been mentioned in connection with the case.

He wept like a child as he spoke about his position in the neighborhood and the confidence which his neighbors had always placed in him.

"What I hate worst of all," he said, "is having impeached the confidence of my neighbors and friends, but the provocation was greater than any man can understand."

"I did everything I could to keep from having trouble with

Carter, but he lied upon me at every chance he could get. I met him in the woods when he had a gun with which to shoot me and he would have killed me if he could have seen me well. In self defense I shot him and even went to Mr. McMillian's and told him about it. In spite of the facts in the case, he swore that I tried to assassinate him. Here was more trouble and more cases in court.

"Latter on, he put me under that peace bond and I told Mr. Peoples, the notary public, that I would leave the state if he would release the bond, but he told me that the law required the bond and I would have to give it or go to jail. And you know you wrote me, Mr. Sheriff, when you sent me one of the papers, that you were getting tired of mine and Carter's cases and that we ought to stop them. I knew you were tired of them, the public was tired of them and all of the officials—even though they were getting fees out of them, were tired. What could I do. I had exhausted every means of living in peace with Carter. I went home from town after dark Saturday evening.

ALF MOORE COMES IN.

"Monday morning before I got out of bed," he continued, "he came over to my house and told me that he had found a man who was anxious to 'put old Carter out of the way.' I asked who it was and he told me it was Alf Moore."

"Who was that talking to you?" asked the reporter. "That was Joe Bently. That night he and Alf Moore came to my house and we talked the matter over. Joe Bently said that Alf would 'put Carter where he would not worry any body any more.' I told Alf to go over to Frank Turner's and spend the night and he told me that he did not want Frank Turner to know that he was there. I then told him that he could go to that little house in the field and he did so. I carried him something to eat there.

"Did Joe Bently come to you voluntarily?" he was asked.

"Yes he did," was the reply.

"Now, gentlemen," continued Rawlings, "if I have not told you the truth I hope I may never live to get out of this chair."

"Who helped Alf Moore do the killing?" he was asked.

"Nobody," was the reply.

"He was by himself and he never thought of bringing my boys into it until after they were arrested. He went to Carter's that afternoon to kill him, but the old man would not come out to the gate. I have told these boys of mine never to bother Carter or his folks and they have not done it. But he would swear their lives away and the life of Tim McDonald and Tim's boy just because he does not like Tim. I would gladly lay down my life to lift the strain that has been cast upon Tim McDonald and his family.

"I think my life should be spared and the boys ought to go free," he said in conclusion, "and now that you have heard the truth, I ask you all to do what you can to see the truth prevail."

Sensation In Columbia.

State Bonds Stolen--Loss Over \$12,500--State Treasurer Jennings has Warrant Issued for a former Bond Clerk, Who Served Under Three Different State Treasurers.

Special to Augusta Chronicle.

Columbia, S. C., Oct. 17.—A warrant was issued this afternoon for the arrest of Daniel Zimmerman, former bookkeeper and confidential clerk in the state treasurer's office, upon an affidavit sworn to by State Treasurer R. H. Jennings, charging him with a breach of trust with fraudulent intention and the theft of state bonds of the value of \$12,500 which, with accrued interest, aggregate \$16,403.73.

Zimmerman, who is a member of one of the oldest and most highly respected families in South Carolina, is about 62 years old, and has resided in Columbia with his family since 1891, coming here from Orangeburg county. He served in the capacity of bookkeeper from 1892 until 1902, under three different state treasurers, W. T. C. Bates, W. H. Timmerman and the incumbent. These officers are liable for any shortage during their term of office, the liabilities being about as follows: W. T. C. Bates, \$1,200; W. H. Timmerman, \$10,500, and R. H. Jennings, \$1,400.

It is alleged that the fraud was committed when a party having bonds might prefer "state stock" in exchange. The papers would be presented and the transfer made. Then instead of cancelling the clerk in charge apparently would take out one of the bonds when there would be a large package, and at some convenient date, would put it on the market as if it were a negotiable instrument instead of a bond. The bonds of the state were payable to bearer, just as a bank note or other currency, and the stock payable to order only.

It is said that irregularities were discovered some time ago and efforts had been made to get Zimmerman to explain them, but it is alleged that he failed to keep several engagements to visit the office and clear up the matter.

Before issuing the warrant this afternoon two of the former treasurers visited Zimmerman's home to prepare him for what was coming and to make a last effort to settle the matter outside the law if possible. Reaching his home they were informed that he was at a local insurance office, in which he is now employed. Going to his office they were told that Zimmerman had just left.

Up to a late hour tonight the warrant had not been served, the sheriff being unable to locate Zimmerman.

APPEARS AND GIVES BOND.

Columbia, October 18.—Special to News and Courier: Daniel Zimmerman, who is charged with substituting 19 State bonds, appeared before Magistrate McMaster this afternoon at 5 o'clock and waived preliminary. The bond for his appearance at the trial was placed at \$17,000.

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